

## April 15, 2008 Real Tax Reform Not On Congressional Democrats' Agenda

"Unfortunately, the new Majority in Congress is not interested in real tax reform. Last month, House Democrats passed a budget that would increase taxes a record \$683-billion on workers, parents, married couples, seniors, small business entrepreneurs, farmers and ranchers," concluded Congressman Thornberry. "I have a different approach. I have sponsored or cosponsored a dozen bills to rein in spending, hold the line on taxes and balance the federal budget. The people are demanding change and the Democratic Leadership in Congress needs to give these bills a vote to enact real budget, spending, and tax reforms."

### Thornberry Says Real Tax Reform Not On Congressional Democrats' Agenda

#### Congressman Sponsors Tax Relief Bills

Washington, DC - Congressman Mac Thornberry today marked April 15, Tax Day, by issuing the following statement, "In 2005 individuals, businesses and nonprofits will spend an estimated 6 billion hours complying with the federal income tax code, with an estimated compliance cost of over \$265.1 billion. This amounts to imposing a 22-cent tax compliance surcharge for every dollar the income tax system collects. Projections show that by 2015 the compliance cost will grow to \$482.7 billion."

"American taxpayers are fed-up with the complexity and inefficiency of the current tax code," said Thornberry. "In fact a recent study indicated that 69% of Americans think the present tax system is unfair, 82% of Americans think we should have a single rate system that could be filed on just one sheet of paper and 65% of Americans think the Death Tax should be abolished."

Thornberry is the sponsor or co-sponsor of the following budget, spending and tax reform bills:

#### Balanced Budget Reform

H.J. RES. 1, The Balanced Budget Amendment - Constitutional Amendment requiring the federal government to balance the budget annually;

#### Spending Reform

H.R. 689, the Legislative Line Item Veto Act - Allows the President to propose wasteful earmarks for elimination with the up or down approval of Congress;

H.CON.RES.263, Establishes the Joint Select Committee on Earmark Reform;

H.R.3654, Establishes a commission to develop legislation designed to reform tax policy and entitlement benefit programs and ensure a sound fiscal future for the United States, and for other purposes;

#### Tax Relief and Reform

H.R. 510, the Tax Code Termination Act - Sunsets the entire federal tax code; forcing Congress to debate and act upon a new tax code that is fairer and more equitable;

H.R. 411, Permanently extends successful 2001 and 2003 tax relief measures like the teacher tax credit, child tax credit, state sales tax credit, and marriage penalty relief;

H.R.25, The FAIR Tax promotes freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity by repealing the income tax and other taxes, abolishing the Internal Revenue Service, and enacting a national sales tax to be administered primarily by the States;

H.R. 1586, a bill to permanently repeal the death tax;

H.R.1366, Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the alternative minimum tax on individuals;

H.R.2158, Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 1993 income tax increase on Social Security benefits;

H.R.3818, Amends amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the alternative minimum tax on individuals and replace it with an alternative tax individuals may choose;

H.R.5109, Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for permanent tax incentives for economic growth.

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